

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MARSHALL DIVISION

GESTURE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS,
LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

HUAWEI DEVICE CO., LTD., AND
HUAWEI DEVICE USA, INC.,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:21-cv-00040

ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR PATENT
INFRINGEMENT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff Gesture Technology Partners, LLC (“GTP” or “Plaintiff”) files this original complaint against Huawei Device Co., Ltd. (“Huawei Device”) and Huawei Device USA Inc. (“Huawei USA”), (collectively “Huawei”) alleging, based on its own knowledge as to itself and its own actions, and based on information and belief as to all other matters, as follows:

PARTIES

1. Gesture Technology Partners, LLC is a limited liability company filed under the laws of the State of Ohio, with its principal place of business at 2815 Joelle Drive, Toledo, Ohio 43617.

2. Defendant Huawei Device Co., Ltd. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of China. It has its principal place of business at 8 Shitou Road, North Area, Shenzhen, 518129, China. Huawei Device designs, manufactures, makes, uses, imports into the United States smartphones and tablets. Huawei Device’s smartphones and tablets are marketed, used, offered for sale, and/or sold throughout the United States, including within this district.

3. Defendant Huawei Device USA Inc. is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Texas. Its principal place of business is at 5700 Tennyson Pkwy, Suite 600, Plano, Texas 75024. Huawei USA is a wholly owned subsidiary of Huawei Device, and oversees domestic sales and distribution of Huawei's consumer electronics products, including the products accused of infringement in this case.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. GTP repeats and re-alleges the allegations in Paragraphs 1-3 as though fully set forth in their entirety.

5. This is an action for infringement of United States patents arising under 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, 281, and 284–85, among others. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction of the action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and § 1338(a).

6. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1400(b) and 1391(c).

7. Huawei is subject to this Court's specific and general personal jurisdiction due at least to Huawei's substantial business in this forum, including (i) at least a portion of the infringements alleged herein; or (ii) regularly doing or soliciting business, engaging in other persistent courses of conduct, or deriving substantial revenue from goods and services provided to individuals in Texas and in this district.

8. Specifically, Huawei intends to and does business in Texas, directly or through intermediaries and offers its products or services, including those accused herein of infringement, to customers and potential customers located in Texas, including in the Eastern District of Texas.

9. Huawei USA maintains a regular and established place of business in this District, including its North American Headquarters at 5700 Tennyson Pkwy, Suite 600, Plano, Texas

75024.¹ Huawei USA may be served with process through its registered agent for service in Texas: CT Corporation System, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 900, Dallas, Texas 75201.

10. Venue is proper against Huawei Device pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c)(3) because venue is proper in any judicial district against a foreign corporation. *See In re HTC Corp.*, 889 F.3d 1349, 1354 (Fed. Cir. 2018).

11. Venue is proper against Huawei USA in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b) because it has maintained established and regular places of business in this District and has committed acts of patent infringement in the District. *See In re Cray Inc.*, 871 F.3d 1355, 1362-63 (Fed. Cir. 2017).

12. Since 2001, Huawei has maintained its North American headquarters in Plano, Texas.

THE TECHNOLOGY

13. GTP repeats and re-alleges the allegations in Paragraphs 1-12 as though fully set forth in their entirety.

14. GTP was founded in 2013 by Dr. Timothy Pryor, the sole inventor of the five Asserted Patents. He currently resides in Toledo, Ohio. Dr. Pryor received a B.S. in Engineering Physics from Johns Hopkins University in 1962, where he was also a member of the Army Reserve Officer in Training (ROTC) program. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. Dr. Pryor continued his education, obtaining an M.S. in Physics from the University of Illinois (1964) and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Windsor (1972).

¹ Huawei Device Co., Ltd., *Contact Us*, available at <https://www.huawei.com/en/contact-us> (last accessed January 18, 2020).

15. Dr. Pryor rose to the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army before his honorable discharge in 1967. Dr. Pryor served at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Proving Ground and in Italy, commanding missile teams supporting the Italian armed forces on a NATO anti-aircraft missile site, charged with guarding nuclear warheads and providing technical assistance to NATO.

16. Dr. Pryor is a named inventor on over 200 patents and patent applications. For the past four decades, he has been a pioneer in laser sensing technology, motion sensing technology, machine vision technology, and camera-based interactive technology.

17. Since the 1970s, Dr. Pryor has founded and led three other companies: two small operating companies in the automotive parts inspection and robotics businesses, one company that developed new forms of vehicle instrument panel controls, and co-founded another company that utilized camera-based sensors for physical therapy. Dr. Pryor is responsible for a significant amount of the research and development for the technologies at these companies.

18. The patents-in-suit, U.S. Patent Nos. 8,194,924 (the “’924 patent”), 7,933,431 (the “’431 patent”), 8,878,949 (the “’949 patent”), and 8,553,079 (the “’079 patent”) (collectively, the “Asserted Patents”), are generally directed to innovations in using mobile phone cameras to assist a user to interact with their smartphone, including, for example, but not limited to unlocking their phone, taking and using photos or videos, and providing other functions.

19. Dr. Pryor conceived of the inventions embodied in the Asserted Patents in the mid-to late-1990s, when he was working on a variety of different projects related to imaging and computer control. Dr. Pryor describes the process as a brainstorm that led to several breakthrough moments, ultimately resulting in the Asserted Patents.

THE ACCUSED PRODUCTS

20. GTP repeats and re-alleges the allegations in Paragraphs 1-19 as though fully set forth in their entirety.

21. Huawei infringed the asserted patents by making, using, selling, offering to sell, and importing its smartphones and tablets. Exemplary accused products include, but are not limited to, the Huawei MatePad Pro, Huawei MatePad (including, at least, the T8 and T8 Kid's Edition), Huawei Mate Xs, Mate 40 Series, Mate 30 Series, Mate X Series, Mate 20 Series, Porsche Design Mate RS, Mate 9 Series, Mate 8 Series, Mate SE, Mate S, G9 Series, Ascend G8 Series, P30 Series, P20 Series, P Smart, P10 Series, P9 Series, P8 Series, Y635, Y560, Ascend Y540, and Y360, (collectively the "Accused Products").

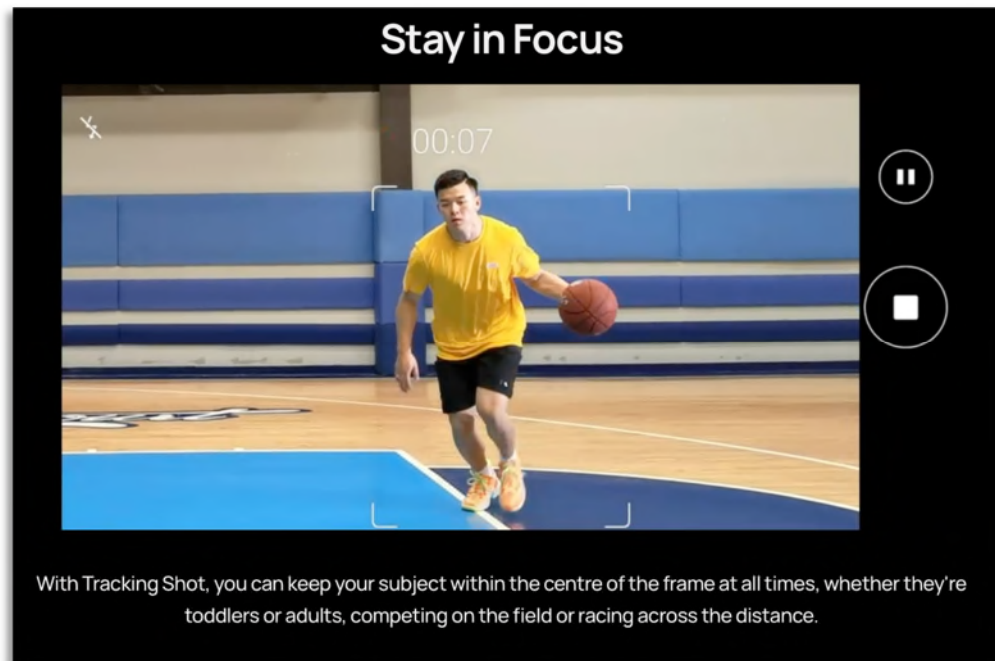
EXAMPLES OF HUAWEI'S MARKETING OF THE ACCUSED FEATURES

22. The Accused Products have features including, but not limited to, at least the following: Tracking Shot, Air Scroll, Smiling Face Capture, Target Tracking, Picture Face Recognition, Selfie Focus, Portrait Mode, Gesture Shots, Facial Recognition, and Fingerprint Recognition (the "Features").

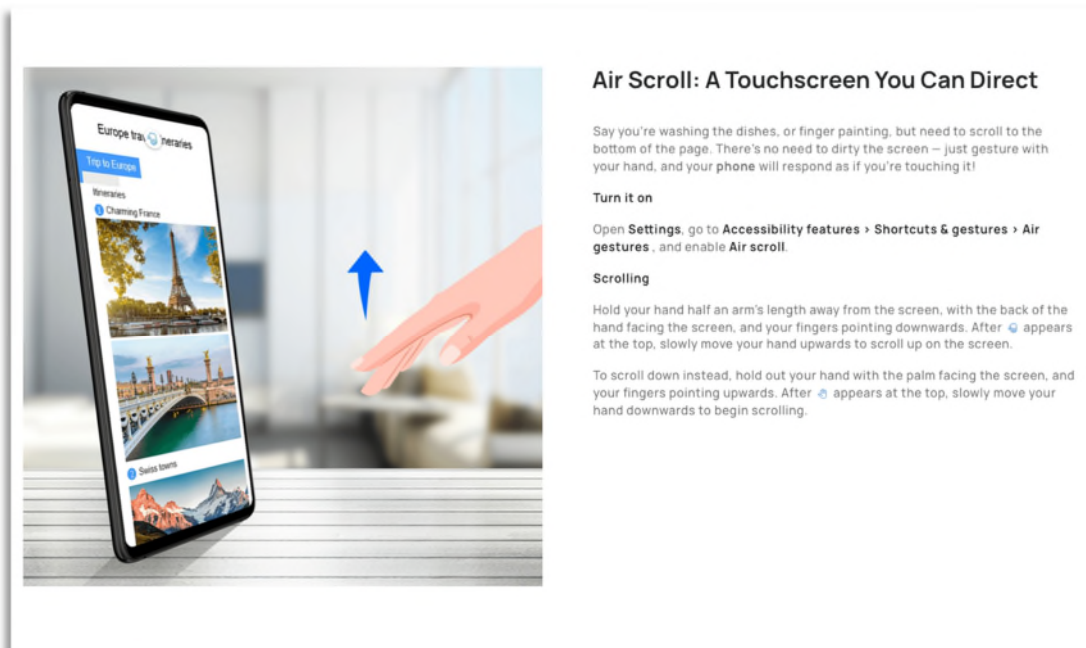
23. The Features drive the popularity and sales of the Accused Products.

24. For example, Huawei has marketed the Accused Products using Tracking Shot to keep subjects in focus when using the camera, as described in the following screenshot from Huawei's website:²

² Huawei Device Co., Ltd., *Huawei Mate40 Pro/5G Leaping Further Ahead*, available at <https://consumer.huawei.com/en/phones/mate40-pro/> (last accessed January 18, 2020).

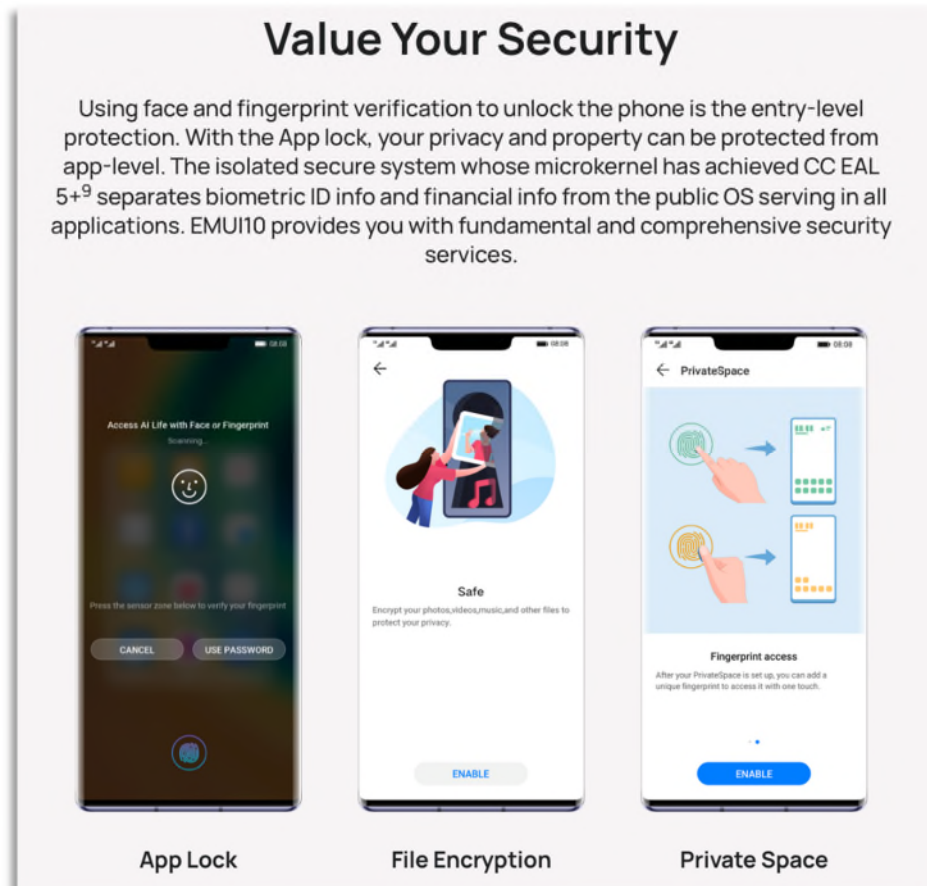


25. Huawei has marketed its Accused Products using Air Scroll as a way to conveniently control your phone, as described in the following screenshot from Huawei's website:³



³ Huawei Device Co., Ltd., *Air Scroll: A Touchscreen You Can Direct*, available at <https://consumer.huawei.com/en/emui10-1/tips/get-familiar-list/article7/> (last accessed January 18, 2020).

26. Huawei has marketed its Accused Products using biometric unlocking functions, such as facial recognition, to unlock the phone as a superior security feature as described in the following screenshot from Huawei's website:⁴



COUNT I

INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,194,924

27. GTP repeats and re-alleges the allegations in Paragraphs 1-26 as though fully set forth in their entirety.

⁴ Huawei Device Co., Ltd., *Huawei Mate30 Pro 5G*, available at <https://consumer.huawei.com/en/phones/mate30-pro-5g/> (last accessed January 18, 2020).

28. GTP owns all substantial rights, interest, and title in and to the '924 patent, including the sole and exclusive right to prosecute this action and enforce the '924 patent against infringers, and to collect damages for all relevant times. The United States Patent and Trademark Office duly issued the '924 patent on June 5, 2012. A copy of the '924 patent is attached as Exhibit A.

29. The '924 patent is titled "Camera Based Sensing in Handheld, Mobile, Gaming or Other Devices." The '924 patent describes using a camera output such that the handheld device's computer performs a control function on the device, such as acquiring or taking images, reading things, determining data, transmitting data, printing data, and actuating a vehicle or function.

30. The claims of the '924 patent are not directed to an abstract idea.

31. Huawei has directly infringed (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) at least Claim 1 of the '924 patent.

32. Huawei has infringed the '924 patent by making, using, selling, offering for sale, and importing the Accused Products.

33. The Accused Products are handheld devices with a housing and a computer, including but not limited to one or more System-on-Chips.

34. The Accused Products have at least one first camera oriented to view a user of the Accused Product. The first camera has an output when used.

35. The Accused Products have at least one second camera oriented to view an object other than the user. The second camera has an output when used.

36. The first and second cameras of the Accused Products have non-overlapping fields of view.

37. The computer of the Accused Products is adapted to perform a control function, such as the control functions associated with the Features, based on an output of either the first camera or the second camera.

38. Plaintiff has been damaged as a result of the infringing conduct by Huawei alleged above. Thus, Huawei is liable to Plaintiff in an amount that compensates it for such infringements, which by law cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

39. Plaintiff has satisfied all statutory obligations required to collect pre-filing damages for the full period allowed by law for infringement of the '924 patent.

40. Plaintiff has not offered for sale nor sold any product implicated by 35 U.S.C. § 287 with respect to the '924 patent.

41. Huawei had knowledge of the '924 patent at least as of the filing of this Complaint.

42. Huawei has also indirectly infringed one or more claims of the '924 patent by inducing others to directly infringe the '924 patent. Huawei has induced end-users and other third-parties to directly infringe (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) the '924 patent by using the Accused Products. Huawei took active steps, directly or through contractual relationships with others, with the specific intent to cause them to use the Accused Products in a manner that infringes one or more claims of the '924 patent, including, for example, Claim 1 of the '924 patent. Such steps by Huawei included, among other things, advising or directing end-users and other third-parties to use the Accused Features in the Accused Products in an infringing manner; advertising and promoting the use of the Accused Products in an infringing manner; or distributing instructions that guide end-users and other third-parties to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner. Huawei performed these steps, which constitute induced infringement with the knowledge of the

'924 patent and with the knowledge that the induced acts constitute infringement. Huawei was aware that the normal and customary use of the Accused Products by others would infringe the '924 patent. Huawei's direct infringement of the '924 patent was willful, intentional, deliberate, or in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights under the patent.

COUNT II

INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,933,431

43. GTP repeats and re-alleges the allegations in Paragraphs 1-42 as though fully set forth in their entirety.

44. GTP owns all substantial rights, interest, and title in and to the '431 patent, including the sole and exclusive right to prosecute this action and enforce the '431 patent against infringers, and to collect damages for all relevant times. The United States Patent and Trademark Office duly issued the '431 patent on April 26, 2011. A copy of the '431 patent is attached as Exhibit B.

45. The '431 patent is titled "Camera Based Sensing in Handheld, Mobile, Gaming, or Other Devices." The '431 patent describes a method for a user to control a handheld device using gestures that are observed by a sensor on the handheld device.

46. Huawei has directly infringed (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) at least Claim 7 of the '431 patent. Huawei has infringed the '431 patent by making, using, selling, offering to sell, and importing the Accused Products.

47. The claims of the '431 patent are not directed to an abstract idea.

48. The Accused Products are handheld computers.

49. The Accused Products have a housing.

50. The Accused Products have one or more cameras associated with their housing. The one or more cameras obtain images of objects using reflected light from the objects.

51. A computer, including but not limited to at least one System on Chip, resides within the housing of the Accused Products. The computer analyzes images obtained by the one or more images to determine information about a position or movement of the object.

52. The Accused Products use information about the object to control a function of the Accused Products, such as the functions associated with the Features.

53. Plaintiff has been damaged as a result of the infringing conduct by Huawei alleged above. Thus, Huawei is liable to Plaintiff in an amount that adequately compensates it for such infringements, which by law cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

54. Plaintiff has satisfied all statutory obligations required to collect pre-filing damages for the full period allowed by law for infringement of the '431 Patent.

55. Plaintiff has not offered for sale nor sold any product implicated by 35 U.S.C. § 287 with respect to the '431 patent.

56. Huawei had knowledge of the '431 patent at least as of the filing of this Complaint.

57. Huawei has also indirectly infringed one or more claims of the '431 patent by inducing others to directly infringe the '431 patent. Huawei has induced end-users and other third-parties to directly infringe (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) the '431 patent by using the Accused Products. Huawei took active steps, directly or through contractual relationships with others, with the specific intent to cause them to use the Accused Products in a manner that infringes one or more claims of the '431 patent, including, for example, Claim 7 of the '431 patent. Such steps by Huawei included, among other things, advising or directing end-users and other third-

parties to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner; advertising and promoting the use of the Accused Products in an infringing manner; or distributing instructions that guide end-users and other third-parties to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner. Huawei performed these steps, which constitute induced infringement with the knowledge of the '431 patent and with the knowledge that the induced acts constitute infringement. Huawei was aware that the normal and customary use of the Accused Products by others would infringe the '431 patent. Huawei's direct and indirect infringement of the '431 patent was willful, intentional, deliberate, or in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights under the patent.

COUNT III

INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,878,949

58. GTP repeats and re-alleges the allegations in Paragraphs 1-57 as though fully set forth in their entirety.

59. GTP owns all substantial rights, interest, and title in and to the '949 patent, including the sole and exclusive right to prosecute this action and enforce the '949 patent against infringers, and to collect damages for all relevant times. The United States Patent and Trademark Office duly issued the '949 patent on November 4, 2014. A copy of the '949 patent is attached as Exhibit C.

60. The '949 Patent is titled "Camera Based Interaction and Instruction." The '949 patent describes a device that allows a user to control the device using gestures registered by the front-facing camera and an electro-optical sensor.

61. The claims of the '949 patent are not directed to an abstract idea.

62. Huawei has directly infringed (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) at least Claim 1 of the '949 patent. Huawei infringed the '949 patent by making, using, selling, offering for sale, and importing the Accused Products.

63. The Accused Products are portable devices.

64. The Accused Products have a housing. The housing has a forward-facing portion that includes an electro-optical sensor that has a field of view and a digital camera.

65. Within the housing is a processing unit including, but not limited to, at least one System on Chip. The processing unit is coupled to the electro-optical sensor.

66. The processing unit in the Accused Products has been programmed to determine if a gesture has been performed in the electro-optical sensors field of view based on an output from the electro-optical sensor.

67. The processing unit of the Accused Products controls the digital camera in response to the gesture performed. Such gestures are used by the Features.

68. Plaintiff has been damaged as a result of the infringing conduct by Huawei alleged above. Thus, Huawei is liable to Plaintiff in an amount that adequately compensates it for such infringements, which by law cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

69. Plaintiff has satisfied all statutory obligations required to collect pre-filing damages for the full period allowed by law for infringement of the '949 Patent.

70. Plaintiff has not offered for sale nor sold any product implicated by 35 U.S.C. § 287 with respect to the '949 patent.

71. Huawei had knowledge of the '949 patent at least as of the filing of this Complaint.

72. Huawei has also indirectly infringed one or more claims of the '949 patent by inducing others to directly infringe the '949 patent. Huawei has induced end-users and other third-parties to directly infringe (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) the '949 patent by using the Accused Products. Huawei took active steps, directly or through contractual relationships with others, with the specific intent to cause them to use the Accused Products in a manner that infringes one or more claims of the '949 patent, including, for example, Claim 1 of the '949 patent. Such steps by Huawei included, among other things, advising or directing end-users and other third-parties to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner; advertising and promoting the use of the Accused Products in an infringing manner; or distributing instructions that guide end-users and other third-parties to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner. Huawei performed these steps, which constitute induced infringement with the knowledge of the '949 patent and with the knowledge that the induced acts constitute infringement. Huawei was aware that the normal and customary use of the Accused Products by others would infringe the '949 patent. Huawei's direct and indirect infringement of the '949 patent was willful, intentional, deliberate, or in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights under the patent.

COUNT IV

INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,553,079

73. GTP repeats and re-alleges the allegations in Paragraphs 1-72 as though fully set forth in their entirety.

74. GTP owns all substantial rights, interest, and title in and to the '079 patent, including the sole and exclusive right to prosecute this action and enforce the '079 patent against infringers, and to collect damages for all relevant times. The United States Patent and Trademark

Office duly issued the '079 patent on October 8, 2013. A copy of the '079 patent is attached as Exhibit D.

75. The '079 patent is titled "More Useful Man Machine Interfaces and Applications." The '079 patent describes methods and apparatuses related to determining gestures illuminated by a light source of a computer by using a camera housed in the computer.

76. The claims of the '079 patent are not directed to an abstract idea.

77. Huawei has directly infringed (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) at least Claim 11 of the '079 patent. Huawei has infringed the '079 patent by making, using, selling, offering for sale, and importing the Accused Products.

78. The Accused Products are computer apparatuses.

79. The Accused Products contain a light source that will illuminate a human body part within a work volume.

80. The Accused Products have one or more cameras. The one or more cameras have a fixed relation to the light source. The one or more cameras of the Accused Products are oriented to observe gestures performed by a human body part.

81. The Accused Products have one or more processors including, but not limited to, one or more System on Chips, that have been programmed to determine a gesture performed based on output from the one or more cameras.

82. Plaintiff has been damaged as a result of the infringing conduct by Huawei alleged above. Thus, Huawei is liable to Plaintiff in an amount that adequately compensates it for such infringements, which by law cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

83. Plaintiff has satisfied all statutory obligations required to collect pre-filing damages for the full period allowed by law for infringement of the '079 patent.

84. Plaintiff has not offered for sale nor sold any product implicated by 35 U.S.C. § 287 with respect to the '079 patent.

85. Huawei had knowledge of the '079 patent at least as of the filing of this Complaint.

86. Huawei has also indirectly infringed one or more claims of the '079 patent by inducing others to directly infringe the '079 patent. Huawei has induced end-users and other third-parties to directly infringe (literally or under the doctrine of equivalents) the '079 patent by using the Accused Products. Huawei took active steps, directly or through contractual relationships with others, with the specific intent to cause them to use the Accused Products in a manner that infringes one or more claims of the '079 patent, including, for example, Claim 11 of the '079 patent. Such steps by Huawei included, among other things, advising or directing end-users and other third-parties to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner; advertising and promoting the use of the Accused Products in an infringing manner; or distributing instructions that guide end-users and other third-parties to use the Accused Products in an infringing manner. Huawei performed these steps, which constitute induced infringement with the knowledge of the '079 patent and with the knowledge that the induced acts constitute infringement. Huawei was aware that the normal and customary use of the Accused Products by others would infringe the '079 patent. Huawei's inducement is ongoing.

87. Huawei's direct and indirect infringement of the '079 patent was willful, intentional, deliberate, or in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights under the patent.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury on all issues so triable by right.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

GTP requests that the Court find in its favor and against Huawei, and that the Court grant GTP the following relief:

- a. Judgment that one or more claims of the Asserted Patents have been infringed, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by Huawei or all others acting in concert therewith;
- b. Judgment that Huawei accounts for and pays to GTP all damages to and costs incurred by GTP because of Huawei's infringing activities and other conduct complained of herein;
- c. Judgment that Huawei's infringements be found willful, and that the Court award treble damages for the period of such willful infringement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- d. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on the damages caused by Huawei's infringing activities and other conduct complained of herein;
- e. That this Court declare this an exceptional case and award GTP its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 285; and
- f. All other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances.

Dated: February 4, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Fred I. Williams

Fred I. Williams

Texas State Bar No. 00794855

Michael Simons

Texas State Bar No. 24008042

Jonathan L. Hardt

Texas State Bar No. 24039906

Chad Ennis

Texas State Bar No. 24045834

WILLIAMS SIMONS & LANDIS PLLC

327 Congress Ave., Suite 490

Austin, TX 78701

Tel: 512-543-1354

fwilliams@wsltrial.com

msimons@wsltrial.com

jhardt@wsltrial.com

cennis@wsltrial.com

Todd E. Landis

State Bar No. 24030226

WILLIAMS SIMONS & LANDIS PLLC

2633 McKinney Ave., Suite 130 #366

Dallas, TX 75204

Tel: 512-543-1357

tlandis@wsltrial.com

John Wittenzellner

Pennsylvania State Bar No. 308996

WILLIAMS SIMONS & LANDIS PLLC

1735 Market Street, Suite A #453

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Tel: 512-543-1373

johnw@wsltrial.com

*Attorneys for Plaintiff Gesture Technology
Partners, LLC*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on February 4, 2021, the undersigned caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served on Huawei through the Court's ECF System.

/s/ Fred I. Williams
Fred I. Williams